

*Date 3/4/2021*

*Senate Bill 746 - Education - Community Colleges - Collective Bargaining*

*SUPPORT*

*Dear members of the Finance Committee:*

*Hello my name is Gracey Ortiz and I am a current student at Prince George's Community College in Largo, Maryland. I am in the Surgical Technology Program. I support bill SB 746 - Education - Community Colleges - Collective Bargaining. I believe that I deserve the right to quality education and staff and faculty at community colleges having a seat at the table will only improve my experience as a student.*

*COVID-19 has impacted me in a number of ways the most significant is not having access to campus regularly. Before COVID-19 I had regular access to campus and I was able to practice in the lab with my professor. I now have to attend classes virtually which is challenging. With support I am confident that my professor will be able to do all that she can to secure a better learning environment. Smaller groups afford me the ability to enhance my skills and my professor the ability to recognize deficits early. My goal is to study and grow in a productive learning environment that they deserve.*

*This is the year to pass this legislation. This legislation is important and needed to keep Maryland's Community Colleges running safely and building Maryland back better after this pandemic is over. I ask you to vote yes on SB 746 and strongly urge a favorable committee report.*

*Respectfully,*

*Gracey Ortiz*